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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

Masato HIROSE

Application No.: 09/988,033

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: METHOD FOR DESIGNING A ROBOT ARM

Confirmation No.: 7769

Group Art Unit: 2837

Examiner: M. Fletcher

Attorney Dkt. No.: 101213-00019

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: March 6, 2003

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2002. In the prosecution of the application identified above, please consider the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-7 as follows:

AI
1. (Amended) A method for designing an arm structure for a robot having an arm which can rotate vertically and forward over a prescribed angle around an axial line extending substantially between two shoulders, the method comprising:

selecting a vertical region in front of the robot that can be accessed by the arm in a fully extended state, the location of the selected vertical region being determined with respect to a reference plane; and

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